Join Bethany for Children & Families on **Thursday, November 3** to honor individuals and groups who make a difference in the lives of children in the Quad Cities!! See the back cover for additional details.

*Individuals recognized at the 2015 Family Awards*
Family Awards 2016

Congratulations Winners!!

Ruth Evelyn Katz Adoptive Family of the Year
This award honors an adoptive family that shows a strong commitment to strengthening and encouraging an adopted child’s growth.

Cory & Amanda Vincent
“Cory and Amanda spent time with the young couple, getting to know one another and begin building a relationship that would continue to develop over time... The birth parents felt assured with their adoption planning because they knew Cory and Amanda would take good care of their child.”

Foster Family of the Year
This award honors a family that creates a safe home for children who have been displaced. The foster family exhibits extraordinary courage, patience, and care while working with foster children.

Bill & Lori Rotz
“Bill and Lori have been fostering for Bethany for over two years, and they are always available to the agency when a kid needs a home during a time of crisis. They have accepted their current foster daughter with open arms, and even their extended family is involved with and supportive of the child.”

Community-Focused Business or Organization
This award honors a local business or organization that values employees, their families, and demonstrates compassion to the community.

Quad Cities Area Children's Food Program
“Students need to stay focused to work on their educational goals and individual goals... Knowing that healthy meals are provided on a daily basis is extremely important to help these students achieve their goals.”
Family Awards 2016

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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The monthly MERIT award recognizes an employee for distinguished service to the agency. MERIT awardees are nominated by their peers or members of the community and are recognized for their outstanding commitment to children and families served by Bethany.

Amy Phillips is the Supervisor for the Behavioral Health Intervention Services and Supervised Visitation programs in Iowa. The nomination stated, “Amy is an asset as a supervisor for the Behavioral Health Intervention Services (BHIS) program, and has been instrumental in making the recent funding changes in the Iowa programs as smooth as possible for staff and clients by getting the needed funding approved so that clients can maintain services without interruptions. Amy is [also] in charge of the Supervised Visitation program, and often takes a hands-on approach. Amy makes sure that staffing is appropriate for the needs of everyone involved, and often handles tough situations when participants of the Supervised Visit program become upset over the already difficult situation.”

Nancy Shaffer is a Case Manager for Bethany’s Adoption program. The nomination stated, “Nancy works tirelessly to help birth mothers who are making an adoption plan and is a vital support to them throughout the process. Nancy provides a safe place for adoption clients, both birth mothers and adopting parents alike. She routinely provides her cell number to her birth mothers and takes their calls in the evenings and weekends. She is also recognized regularly by her adoptive parents for excellent customer service with multiple cards of appreciation... Whenever Nancy has available time from her regular duties in the adoption program, she offers to help out in other programs within the Iowa Division, which further demonstrates her high level of teamwork and integrity.”
Recent Grants

The Muscatine Health Support Foundation awarded a grant of $7,560 to support School-Based Therapy in Muscatine schools in the 2016-2017 academic year.

DuTrac Community Credit Union gave a gift of $500 to support School-Based Therapy for children in Davenport schools.

The Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth program received a grant of $1,000 from the Rock Island Community Foundation.

The Doris & Victor Day Foundation awarded a grant of $5,000 in support of the Housing for Chronically Homeless Families and Transitional Housing for Homeless Youth programs.

The Wells Fargo Foundation awarded a grant of $3,000 to support the Give Kids a Smile Mobile Dental Program.

Erin Lange (right), Mental Health Therapist at Bethany’s office in Maquoketa, receives a gift from Glen Schultz, representing the Maquoketa Optimist Club.

Deanna Solis (far left), Bethany’s Director of Iowa Family Services, and Joscelyn Stone (center right), Director of Development and Communications, accept a gift from DuTrac representatives Crystal McGarry (far right) and Morgan Felten (center left).
Program Spotlight
Homeless Services

Bethany offers three programs to address the issue of homelessness in the Quad Cities. With a program focused on families, another focused on youth (under 25), and a third focused on teens (under 18), Bethany is well-equipped to provide a safe home environment and the case management support necessary to ensure future success.

Based upon the Housing First model, Bethany's **Housing Family NOW** program helps families meet their basic needs and obtain housing in an apartment in the Illinois Quad Cities. Once the family is settled, intensive case management helps the family identify the issues that caused homelessness, set goals, and prevent future episodes of homelessness. The **Housing Youth NOW** program is similar, with case management focusing on assistance with obtaining a GED or completing education, making plans for a career, and learning to live independently.

Bethany’s **Housing Teens in Need** program provides comprehensive services that address the most pressing needs homeless youth have: a safe, stable home; income adequate to meeting their most basic needs; and assistance and direction in overcoming the problems that interfere with their ability to live independently. The program encourages self-sufficiency by giving young people opportunities to exercise leadership and responsibility, build skills, and get involved in their communities.

For more information about these programs, please contact Ben Cleaveland at (309) 797-7700 or bcleaveland@bethany-qc.org.
Program Spotlight
Homeless Services

When she was sixteen, Jessica dropped out of high school and ran away from her abusive home, moving to a suburb of Chicago with her boyfriend. After just a couple of months, she began to regret her decision. Living with her alcoholic boyfriend was almost as miserable as her life back with her parents. She knew she couldn’t return to her parents’ house, where the abusive environment hindered her from being able to attend school on a regular basis and sent her to sleep in her car many nights, but after a conversation with her aunt (who told her about Bethany for Children & Families), Jessica returned to the Quad Cities and entered the Housing Teens in Need program with the help of her high school counselor.

A Bethany case manager established Jessica in an apartment and organized the paperwork for a part-time job at a local grocery store near her high school. The case manager also helped Jessica obtain medical benefits and food assistance, empowering her to live more comfortably and to focus more on her education. With the aid of her Bethany case manager, Jessica also developed budgeting and money management skills, and she now has her own savings account. While she initially had some problems showing up to her weekly check-in meetings, Jessica is now doing so well that she looks forward to those meetings to share stories from work, show off her latest good grades, and generally celebrate her successes with her case manager.

Jessica is now a senior in high school, and she’s talking with her case manager about enrolling in the local community college after graduation. Due to her experiences and successes, Jessica is considering a degree in addictions counseling to pursue a career as a substance abuse counselor.
The **Generosity** of the **Quad Cities**

In the summer issue of *The Buzz@Bethany*, we asked for your assistance to provide new school supplies for children in need. Almost all of Bethany’s 22 programs and services benefit from donations of school supplies, and the Quad Cities really delivered! Here is a sample of donation photos — from companies, charitable groups, and caring individuals — throughout the Quad Cities.

**THANK YOU!!!**
These images are deceptive! Almost all of the backpacks donated to Bethany were also bursting full of brand new school supplies!
The Generosity of the Quad Cities

Landon S. delivers a generous gift from students at Wilson Middle School, who held a Dodgeball Tournament to benefit Bethany’s homeless programs.

Joscelyn Stone, Director of Development and Communications at Bethany, thanks Patti M., manager of the John Deere Davenport Works Gift Shop, for always thinking of the agency’s clients.

The Gift Shop donated 25 boxes full of brand new clothing items and accessories for men, women, and children.
Duplex for Sale

In early 2014, an abandoned and dilapidated duplex in East Moline was donated to Bethany. After a complete renovation, the duplex is for sale!

MLS ID: 4176121
Listing Price: $69,900

709-715 22nd Street
East Moline, IL 61265

For information, please contact Ashley Rowe at Ruhl & Ruhl Realtors. Ashley has donated her professional services to support Bethany for Children & Families. Ashley can be reached by phone at (309) 721-8830.

Downtown Moline Blood Drive

Will you give?

Blood Drive
Thursday, December 15
12:30 PM — 3:00 PM
Bethany for Children & Families
1830 6th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265

Appointments are appreciated, but not required. For further information, contact Joscelyn Stone at (309) 736-6644 or jstone@bethany-qc.org, or visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org.
Three Cheers for Volunteers!

Representatives from RSM-US — a provider of audit, tax and consulting services — volunteered an afternoon to help Bethany’s Foster Care and Therapy programs by ensuring that the rooms used for family visits and therapy sessions were sanitized and spotlessly clean.

Teens4Tomorrow — a youth philanthropy group at the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend made up of high school students from Rock Island County, Illinois and Scott County, Iowa — helped the Give Kids a Smile mobile dental program by preparing goodie bags for the 2016-2017 season. Goodie bags are given to all children seen on the bus and include a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, and information about oral health.
Illinois foster care agencies are coming together to recruit, train, and license foster homes. Our collective goal is to license foster homes to ensure successful placements and eliminate multiple moves for the children we serve. Help the children in our community who need it most!

For more information about becoming a foster parent, please contact us:

- Bethany for Children & Families
  (309) 797-7700
- The Center for Youth & Family Solutions
  (309) 786-0770
- Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
  (309) 794-3500
- Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
  (309) 786-6400

Consider becoming a foster parent!
Visit [bethany-qc.org/givingtuesday](bethany-qc.org/givingtuesday) on **November 29** to support Bethany for Children & Families this year. Your contribution helps us carry out the agency’s mission of *keeping children safe, strengthening families, and building healthy communities.*

This year, #GivingTuesday falls on **November 29**. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

#GivingTuesday is a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy.

If you are interested in acting as a **SOCIAL MEDIA AMBASSADOR** on behalf of Bethany for Children & Families, just email Dylan Davis at [ddavis@bethany-qc.org](mailto:ddavis@bethany-qc.org). It’s super easy! All you do is change your profile picture and cover photo on Facebook or Twitter to images provided by Bethany and make a few posts throughout the day on November 29! We can even provide you with sample posts!

(309) 797-7700 or (563) 324-9169  
[bethany-qc.org](bethany-qc.org)  

This mailing was prepared by students in the Blackhawk Area Education Center Vocational Education class. For more information, visit [www.bhased.org](http://www.bhased.org).
Bethany’s Christmas Giving Program

Each year, Bethany for Children & Families asks the community to help make the holidays bright for the agency’s families in need. People donate clothing, toys, hygiene items, and cleaning supplies to help grant the wishes of those in our community who might otherwise not receive gifts.

Gift tags with wish list items will be distributed to participating donors after October 30th. Donors are asked to return gift items (unwrapped, please!) to Bethany by December 8th.

This is a fun and fulfilling project for individuals, families, and groups! If you are interested in participating in the Christmas Giving Program this year, please contact Mary Ann McLeod at (309) 736-6645 or mmcleod@bethany-qc.org.

Want to do even more? You can help Bethany prepare Thanksgiving food baskets by sponsoring a family. Your contribution of $55 buys Thanksgiving dinner for a family of 4-6 people.

To participate, donate online at www.bethany-qc.org or contact us at (309) 797-7700.
On Thursday, November 3, join Bethany for Children & Families at CityView Celebrations in Moline as we honor exceptional community members who are dedicated to improving the lives of children in the Quad Cities.

**Ruth Evelyn Katz Adoptive Family of the Year Award**
This award honors an adoptive family that shows a strong commitment to strengthening and encouraging an adopted child’s growth. This award honors any adoptive family structure.

**Foster Family of the Year**
This award honors a family that creates a safe home for children who have been displaced. The foster family exhibits extraordinary courage, patience, and care while working with foster children.

**Community-Focused Business or Employer of the Year**
This award honors a Quad City business or employer that values employees, their families, and demonstrates compassion to the community.

**Thursday, November 3**
6:00 p.m. hors d’oeuvres and cash bar
6:30 p.m. awards presentation

**CityView Celebrations**
701 12th Street
Moline, Illinois

RSVP to Dylan Davis at davis@bethany-qc.org or call (309) 736-6642. Please RSVP by Monday, October 31. Cost is $25 per person.